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Alleged prohibition of cultivation in the Zamin Thanichiam village, Madura district.

*752 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of land in the zamin Thanichiam village, Nilakkottai taluk, Madura district, which was formerly classed as dry, and grown with dry crops but has been subsequently transferred to wet and grown with wet crops as the result of the introduction of the Periyar project;

(b) whether the cultivation on the said lands has since been prohibited, and if so, why; and

(c) if the answer to clause (b) is in the affirmative, whether compensation has been awarded to the owners concerned, and if so, how much and for what extent?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

Removal of prickly-pear, etc., from the supply channel to Harpanahalli tank.

*753 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether H. Narasinga Rao applied for and obtained a loan for constructing "vooddoos" (embankments) on his fields survey Nos. 381-D and 382 of Harpanahalli village, Bellary district, and built the "vooddoos" as per the terms of his loan order;

(b) whether the "vooddoos" were inspected during or after their construction by any officer of the Revenue Department and were considered to have been satisfactorily done, and if so, by whom and when;

(c) whether the survey Nos. 381-D and 382 are close to the supply channel of the Harpanahalli tank;

(d) whether the said channel is in a very neglected condition and has been allowed to be overgrown with prickly-pear, etc., with the result that during the rains water is diverted to survey Nos. 381-D and 382;

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps to have the channel cleared of the noxious growth in it and avoid the danger of damage to the land and the crop thereof of Narasinga Rao; and

(f) whether any and if so, what relief has been given to Mr. Narasinga Rao for the damage caused to his land and the crop thereon owing to the Government's neglect to keep the supply channel free from noxious growth?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government have no information but have called for a report on the case.

Opening of a Deputy Tahsildar's office in Sankarapuram.

*754 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to open a Deputy Tahsildar's office in Sankarapuram;

(b) whether the Government have collected statistics for the Kallakurichi taluk under revenue and criminal justice for the past three years;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints of the inconvenience felt by the ryots of outlying villages by being obliged to go to Kallakurichi for revenue purposes and trial of cases;

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(*d*) whether the establishment of a Deputy Tahsildar's office at Sankarapuram will be self-supporting besides affording relief to the people ; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) No.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) On receipt of a memorial in 1924 from the Bar Association, Kallakurichi, asking for the establishment of a Deputy Tahsildar's office at Sankarapuram, the Government examined the question and decided that there were no sufficient reasons for opening such an office. The Government are not aware of any change in the conditions of the case since 1924 and so do not propose to reopen the questions.

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—" With reference to answer (*b*), may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to collect statistics under revenue and criminal justice for the past three years for the Kallakurichi taluk from the Collector ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—" Does the hon. Member want me to collect the statistics ? "

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—" May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether he will be pleased to call for the statistics from the Collector relating to the Kallakurichi taluk under revenue and criminal justice for the past three years ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—" I do not know why I should do so."

Landlord and Tenant

Introduction of the amending Bill to the Estates Land Act.

*755-A Q.—Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the undertaking given by him on 3rd September 1928 to introduce the amending Bill to the Estates Land Act of 1908 during the lifetime of this Council—

(*a*) the steps already taken to give effect to it ;

(*b*) when the Government hope to publish and introduce the draft Bill as accepted by the Government ; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the agitation for amending the Estates Land Act has been going on from long before the reformed councils came into existence ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) If the hon. Member will be good enough to refer to the report of the Proceedings of this Council on the date he mentions, he will see that no undertaking was given to the effect now alleged. The present state of the case is that certain matters have been referred to the Board of Revenue for report. The Board has been reminded. On receipt of its remarks, the subject will be taken up by the Government for decision. The Government hope that this will be possible before the end of the current calendar year.

(*c*) Proposals for amending the Act were certainly made before the time referred to.